

***TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2010***

***Present:*** Selectmen Rosanne Gilbert and Wes Moore. Selectman Michael Woodworth joined the meeting in progress. Others present: Brian Knipstein, Clay Mitchell, Glenn Dodds, Elaine Schuster, Kathy Bailey, Larry Shaw, Sue McKinnon, and Sandra Bisset.

***Call to order:*** 6:08pm by Chairman Moore.

The Cuba Road bridge was discussed. It was closed earlier because some planks need replacing. The Selectmen want the bridge to be safe for the people using it. Brian Knipstein will make repairs with plywood over the boards.

Glenn Dodds of the SnowRaiders asked for permission to look into making a snowmobile trail between Old Lee Road and Halls Mill Road and connecting into the Piscassic Greenway. Wes suggested that he speak with Brian Hart at Southeast Land Trust and the Conservation Commission. Glenn will return at a later date with more information.

Rosanne Gilbert made a motion to appoint Brian Knipstein as Road Agent for three years. Wes Moore seconded the motion and the motion passed with both in favor.

Brian advised the Selectmen that Bald Hill Road has been closed since Sunday night. The temporary repair made two weeks ago washed away. Brian presented pricing for a concrete culvert with a rock retaining wall that will last at least seventy-five years. It will handle one and one-half times the volume of the current culvert. The new system cannot be installed until the water table comes down. The DES permit for this job can be fast-tracked. The Selectmen gave Brian permission to go ahead. The anticipated cost of this work is \$30,000.

Elaine Schuster met with the Selectmen to discuss the rocks being pushed onto her lawn by the snowplows. The gravel is put down next to the roads to keep the pavement in place. Unfortunately, the gravel will move with the snow when the ground is not frozen.

Sue McKinnon was sworn in as Town Clerk/Tax Collector for three years.

Landscaping was discussed. It was decided to put it out to bid this year. The bids are due March 30<sup>th</sup>.

A property owner complained about the cost of commercial electrical inspections. The Board discussed this with Larry Shaw and Clay Mitchell. As the property owner was not in attendance the discussion ended.

Larry inspected 34 Railroad Avenue as directed. The Fire Department needs to complete an inspection on building A in order for an Occupancy Permit to be issued.

Clay is reviewing the Parker Building Permit Application.

The Town did receive a grant for one half of the cost of lighting updates in the Town Hall and the Fire Department. The other half of the cost will be paid by PSNH. This will reduce the electricity costs at both buildings.

Sandra Bisset of Bisset Consulting presented the results of her energy audit of the Town for the Municipal Energy Assistance Program. A discussion of the many ways that the Town may reduce their electricity costs took place.

Clay was asked to attend a Conservation Commission meeting to discuss the Newfields Energy Committee.

Forms are available in the Town Office for businesses in Newfields that suffered some type of business loss due to the "State of New Hampshire February 2010 State of Emergency Rain/Snow Storm". The filing deadline is March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010.

Michael made a motion to accept the reduced assessment on the Poole property. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Rosanne made a motion to accept a twelve ton salt donation to the Town from Jeremy Bonner. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor. The Selectmen thank Mr. Bonner for his generous donation.

The following items were signed by the Selectmen: checks, Town Hall Rental Agreement, correspondence to the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, the Health Officer's appointment, one Application for Exemption, and the Oaths of Office for Sue McKinnon and Michael Woodworth.

The Selectmen reviewed the contract for the purchase of the new fire truck and signed the contract.

Correspondence from New Hampshire Employment Security was reviewed.

Nancy Spencer looked into the costs for voice mail on the Town Office phones. It is actually less expensive to purchase a new telephone with voice mail capabilities. Permission was granted to purchase a new telephone.

A Public Hearing Notice from the Town of Newton was reviewed along with a notice from the Town of Windham.

Tim Riel's research into off-site backups was reviewed. He will be contacted for a start date of the service.

Correspondence from the Department of Environment Services was reviewed along with correspondence from the Community Development Finance Authority.

It was interesting to note that the Town Hall used 20 kWh less electricity between February of last year and February 2010. The effort of the Town employees to reduce electricity is appreciated.

After discussion, it was decided that the Selectmen will meet every other Tuesday night with a start time of 5:30pm. This will be on a trial basis.

Michael made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2010 meeting as amended. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Wes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:31pm. Rosanne seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer  
Administrative Assistant